THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Besides High Power TV transmitter (permanent set up) at Bhuj, which is presently under implementation in Gujarat, 5 other locations in the State have been tentatively identified for installation of HPTs subject to availability of funds, other infrastrucural facilities and inter-se priorities.

(b) The revised approved capital cost of the HPT, Bhuj is Rs. 875.07 lakhs. The other 5 projects have still to be approved by the competent authority.

(c) and (d) While HPT, Bhuj (permanent set up) is expected to be completed during 1998, the other proposed schemes are expected to be completed in about 4 years' time from the date of sanction of the scheme by the competent authority.

Ill effects of PEM on Children's eye-sight

2309. SHRI LACHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether PEM (Protein Energy Malnutrition) among the people in the country has increased;

(b) the number of children affected by night blindness, a disease caused by Vitamin A deficiency; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent PEM among the children from the poor section of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The number oc children affected by night blindness because of vitamin A deficiency is not available. However, surveys carried out by National Nutrition Monitoring Board using prevalence of Bitot spot as an indicator of vitamin A deficiency have shown a decrease from 1.8% in 1975-79 to 0.7 in 1988-90.

(c) The steps taken to prevent PEM among children include provision of supplementary nutrition through ICDS, Mid-day meal programme, provision of Vitamin A and Iron Folic Acid tablets under the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme, National Iodine Deficiency Programme, Pilot Programme for control of Micronutrient mal-nutrition, promotion of exclusive breast feeding and nutrition education. Empowerment of women through facilitating formation of self help groups at village level aimed at income generation leading to better capacity for higher nutrition are some of the additional steps in this direction.

Deficit financing of the Budget

2310. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deficit financing of the budget during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in deficit financing during this period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government to decrease and improve the position of deficit financing of the budget?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The details of budget deficit which represents excess of total expenditure (both revenue & capital) over total receipts (both revenue & capital) for the last three years are as under:—

	(Rs. in crore)
1993-94	10960
1994-95	961
1995-96 (RE)	7600

(c) and (d) Need for deficit financing of the budget arises due to excess of total expenditure over total receipts and is met by issue of 91 day Treasury Bills and draw down of cash balance. Budget deficit for 1996-97(BE) has been estimated at Rs. 6578 crore. Government will endeavour to contain the budget deficit in the current year by increasing receipts and controlling expenditure.

Foreign exchange outlay incurred by companies operating satellite TV channels

2311. SHRI R.K. KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign exchange outlay

incurred by companies operating Satellite TV channels in India, with break up of hire charges incurred by each company towards overseas satellite transmitters and whether each one of them obtained prior permission of RBI for the same; and

(b) if so, respective dates on which RBI gave such permission?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up a National Institute of Siddha/ Unani

2312. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up national institute for Siddha/Unani;

(b) if so, the present stage of the proposal; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It has been decided in principle to set up a National Institute of Siddha at Madras for which a tentative site has already been identified. However, due to lack of financial resources it is not possible to take further action on this during current financial year. In so far as National Institute of Unani is concerned, it has already been decided to set up the same at Bangalore on a piece of land provided by the Government of Karnataka free of cost. The foundation stone of the building had been laid on 8.11.1995 and the work of construction of boundary wall of the same is in progreee. The Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation Ltd. (HSCC), a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already been given the work to prepare designs and estimates for the proposed building complex of the Institute.

Composition of Company Law Board

2313. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the composition of the Company Law Board and the criteria and procedure for selection of its members and Chairman;

(b) how many offices the Board has all over the country;

(c) what is the category-wise break-up of the pending cases before the Board;

(d) what is the jurisdiction and powers of the Board;

(e) whether in the wake of economic liberalisation, need for a new role and giving more teeth to the Board has been felt by Government; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The sanctioned strength of the Company Law Board is one Chairman, one Vice-Chairman and seven Members. Their qualifications, age limit and method of recruitment are prescribed in Rules 3 and 4 of the Company Law Board (Qualifications, Experience and other Conditions of Service of Members) Rules, 1993 issued vide Notification No. A-12018/3/ 92-Admn.I dated 28.4.1993 and published in the Official Gazette on 28.4.1993 under GSR No. 388 (E).

(b) The Board has a Principal Bench at New Delhi and four Regional Benches at New Delhi (Northern Region), Mumbai (Western Region), Calcutta (Eastern Region) and Madras (Southern Region).

(c) A statement is enclosed (*See* below)

(d) The Principal Bench of the Board has jurisdiction all over the country. The matters falling under Sections 235, 237, 247, 248, 250, 397/398, 408 and 409 of the Companies Act, 1956 and Section 2A of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 are dealt with by the Principal Bench. The Regional Benches have jurisdiction within their respective areas. The matters falling under Section 17, 18/19, 58A(9), 80A, 111, 113, 141, 167, 186 and 621A of the Companies Act, 1956 and under Section 22A of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 are dealt with by the Regional Benches.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.